

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-71 (canceled)

Claim 72 (previously presented): A method for inhibiting the growth, viability and/or survivability of cancer cells that express the nucleotide sequence SEQ. ID. No.: 1 or the cDNA in ATCC deposit 207097 (20P1F12/TMPRSS2), the method comprising:

administering to the cancer cells an antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds to a 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 protein, thereby inhibiting the growth, viability and/or survivability of said cancer cells.

Claim 73 (previously presented): The method of claim 72, wherein said antibody or fragment is a monoclonal antibody, or fragment thereof.

Claim 74 (previously presented): The method of claim 72, wherein said antibody or fragment is a recombinant protein comprising the antigen-binding region of an antibody that specifically binds to 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 protein.

Claim 75 (previously presented): The method of claim 72, wherein said antibody or fragment is labeled with a detectable marker.

Claim 76 (previously presented): The method of claim 72, wherein said antibody or fragment is conjugated with a cytotoxic agent.

Claim 77 (previously presented): The method of claim 72, wherein said antibody or fragment is a human antibody or fragment.

Claim 78 (previously presented): The method of claim 72, wherein said antibody or fragment is administered by administering a recombinant polynucleotide that encodes the antibody or fragment thereof.

Claim 79 (previously presented): The method of claim 72 wherein the cancer cells are in a mammal.

Claim 80 (previously presented): The method of claim 79, wherein the mammal is a human and the said antibody or fragment is a recombinant protein which comprises a chimeric or humanized antibody.

Claim 81 (previously presented): The method of claim 80, wherein said antibody or fragment is administered with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 82 (previously presented): The method of claim 80, said antibody or fragment is administered as the composition in a human patient dose.

Claims 83-84 (canceled)

Claim 85 (withdrawn): A method for characterizing an antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds a TMPRSS2 polypeptide which has the sequence of SEQ. ID No.: 2, or which is encoded by the nucleotide sequence SEQ. ID No.: 1, or which is encoded by the cDNA in ATCC deposit 207097 (20P1F12/TMPRSS2), the method comprising:

- providing cancer cells that express said TMPRSS2 polypeptide;
- providing an antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds said TMPRSS2 polypeptide;
- administering to the cancer cells the antibody or fragment thereof; and,
- identifying that the antibody or fragment thereof inhibits growth, viability and/or survivability of said cancer cells.

Claim 86 (withdrawn): The method of claim 85, further comprising the step of: evaluating the mechanism by which the antibody or fragment thereof that binds said TMPRSS2 polypeptide inhibits the growth, viability, and/or survivability of the cancer cells.

Claim 87 (previously presented): A method for inhibiting the growth, viability and/or survivability of cancer cells that express the nucleotide sequence SEQ. ID. No.: 1 or that express the cDNA in ATCC deposit 207097 (20P1F12/TMPRSS2) or that express a polypeptide of SEQ. ID. No.: 2, the method comprising:

administering to the cancer cells *in vitro* an antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds to a 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 protein, thereby inhibiting the growth, viability and/or survivability of said cancer cells.

Claim 88 (previously presented): The method of claim 87, further comprising the step of: evaluating the mechanism by which the antibody or fragment thereof inhibits the growth, viability and/or survivability of the cancer cells.